

AFTERNOON SHOWERS
High: 64
Low: 48
40% chance of rain



Wednesday: Storms, 69/57
Thursday: Cloudy, 59/48
Friday: Showers, 64/46

Details on the back of **Metro**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

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BLACKOUT AT HARTSFIELD-JACKSON

ZERO COMMUNICATION



Caira Billingsley (center) said her trip from Macon to California had a minor setback at the Spirit ticket counter on Monday at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport the day after a massive power outage. JOHN SPINK / JSPINK@AJC.COM

Airport had no plan for total power outage

By Willoughby Mariano
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His family missed their flight for a Hawaiian vacation because of Sunday’s Atlanta airport nightmare. So the exasperated dad hammered out a list of questions and emailed them to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution – questions that speak to the excruciating ordeal suffered by tens of thousands of travelers, and how the city left them in the dark, literally and figuratively.

Why leave planes stranded on the tarmac? Why weren’t the water fountains working? Why wasn’t anyone at the airport communicating to the stranded passengers? “We deserved to know the truth,” Erik Swanson of Fulton County wrote.

After more than 24 hours without answers –

No plan continued on A4

A ‘wake-up call’ for U.S. airports

By David Wickert
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The fire that shut down power at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport was a wake-up call for airports across the country, experts say.

Though the airport and Georgia Power are still investigating the cause, aviation experts questioned why the parts of the backup electrical system serving the airport were located so close to the main power system – close enough that both were disabled by a single fire.

Airport and Georgia Power officials apologized for the 11-hour

‘Wake-up call’ continued on A7



On Monday, passengers were still feeling the effects of Sunday’s power outage at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport as they had to endure long lines to claim baggage and ride shuttles. BOB ANDRES / BANDRES@AJC.COM

The world’s busiest airport – at a standstill

In the dark, with little information, flyers endure a ‘bizarre’ experience.

By Richard Halicks
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Let nothing you dismay.

The performance of “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” by a middle school chorus flowed softly and ironically through the atrium at Hartsfield-Jackson International late Monday morning.

The big open space in the terminal was full of weary, unwashed faces; several people had simply pulled blankets over their heads. The departure board by noon showed traffic moving. Well,

Standstill continued on A6

INSIDE: HEROES; THE MAYOR; TALES FROM THOSE STRANDED; QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS; AND MORE, PAGES A4-5

DEADLY TRAIN ACCIDENT

Amtrak train hurtles off overpass

At least 6 die, 50 hurt in 80 mph derailment in Washington state.

By Rachel La Corte and Gillian Flaccus
Associated Press

DUPONT, WASH. — An Amtrak train making the first-ever run along a faster new route hurtled off an overpass south of Seattle at an estimated 80 mph Monday and spilled some of its cars onto the highway below, killing at least six people, authorities said.

Seventy-seven passengers and five crew members were aboard when the train derailed and pulled 13 cars off the tracks. At least 50 people were hospitalized, more than a dozen with critical or serious injuries, authorities said.

An official briefed on the investi-



Emergency crews work at the scene of an Amtrak train derailment Monday in DuPont, Wash. At least six people died and 50 injured. STEPHEN BRASHEAR / GETTY IMAGES

gation said that preliminary signs indicate that Train 501 may have struck something before going off the track about 40 miles south of Seattle. The official was not authorized to discuss the investigation publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The Pierce County Sheriff’s Office said several vehicles on Interstate 5 were struck by falling train cars and multiple motorists were injured. No fatalities of motorists were reported.

Amtrak continued on A8

ATLANTA MAYOR

Mayor-elect Bottoms moves forward as lawsuit looms

By Stephen Deere
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The only signs that talk of a lawsuit is impacting the plans of Atlanta Mayor-elect Keisha Lance Bottoms are the lawyers in dark suits who have attended recent Fulton County election board meetings.

Bottoms herself has shown no visible concern that her victory could be undone by a judge.

At a City Council meeting last week, she didn’t react when her opponent, fellow city Councilwoman Mary Norwood, said either Bottoms or someone else would occupy the mayor’s seat, hinting that a challenge was on the horizon.

Bottoms joined Mayor Kasim Reed on stage at the annual UNCF

Mayor’s Masked Ball on Saturday night to rousing applause as he introduced her as Atlanta’s 60th mayor.

Bottoms recounted a story about when she learned about the event, which raises money for college scholarships, in the

Bottoms continued on A8

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